THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (d) Agro-Aviatj[on Wing *at* the Ministry of Agriculture was trans-:'".■! red to Ministry of Civil Aviation in May. 1937 and subsequently to Vayudoot Ltd. jn January, 1988. In view of the severe locust upsurge faced by the country during Summer of 1.993. Government is considering to reactivate Agricultural Aviation Wing under the Administrative control of (he Ministry of Agriculture.

Weed Growth affecting- wheat cultivation

7157. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 34 lakh hectare area under cultivation of wheat is affected by the menace of weed growth in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this has cut yield upto 60 per cent at certain places; and

(c) the steps being taken or already taken to check this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S, KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). Sir, on. an average yield losses due to menace of weed growth in wheat i_s 20-25 per cent.

(c) The following steps are being taken to check (he weed menace in wheat crop: —

1. Education the farmers about cultural, mechanical and chemical methods of weed control including proper use of weedicides.

2. Ensuring timely availability of quality weedicides for control of weeds jn wheat crop.

Inadequate aggrieutural infrastruetuete meent the food need

7158. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAH BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE tee pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agrieultural in-frastructure in India and other dev-eloping countries of Asia is inade-quat to meet the food needs as stated by World Bank recently;

(b) if so, the reaction of government on the World Bank remarks;

(c) whether Government have fak-en any concrete steps to boost agri-| cultural infrastructure in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof? ""

I THE MINISTER OF STATE IN STAET MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM (a) (. Though it is not true of the whole 6f ■ Asia, World Bank reports in the past have noted that infrastructure in India is a constraint to agricultural production.

(b) to (d) The Government is aware that a great deal of potential in agriculture remains unexploited due to inadequate infrastructure, food processing technology, lack of adequ-marketing linkages and policy im plements. To realise this potential, corrective measures are being un dertaken under the new economic policy to put agriculture on a path of sustained, broad based develop ment, *i*

DMS outlet in Rohini

715t. MAULANA OBAJDOLLAH KHAN A21fl; Will the l&usUr of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has [no]* opened any outlet booth of DUB *m* Rohini, Delhi if so, details there-of and reasons therfor